A TREATISE

of the peace made and concluded between the states of the lowe Countries, assembled within the Citie of BRVXELS, and the Prince of Orenge, the states of Holland and Zeland, with the associates, published the viij. day of Nouember.

1576.

With the agreement and confirmatiō of the Kings maiestie, as followeth.

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Translated out of a dutch copy printed in BRVXELS by the Kings Printer, with the said Kings Priuiledge.

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PHILIP by the grace of GOD, king of Caſtile, of Leon, of Aragon, of Nauarre, of Naples, of Sicil, of Mailorca, of Sardigna, of the Iſles of the Indes and the firme lands of the Ocean Sea. Archduke of Auſtria, Duke of Burgoigne, of Lotherick, of Brabant, of Lembourge, of Luxembourge, of Geldre and Millaine. Countie of Habſbourge, of Flaunders, of Artois, of Bourgoigne. Palatine of Haynault, of Holland, of Zeland, of Namur and of Zutphen. Prince of Zwaue. Marques of the ſacred Empire. Lord of Frizland, of Salus, of Malines, the Citie, Villages and countrie of Vtrecht, Doueryſſel and Groning. Cheef ruler in Aſia and Aphrica, vnto all thoſe to whome theſe preſents ſhall come, greeting.

When as the generall ſtates

were gathered within our Citie of *Bruxels*, & there hauing shewed and declared vnto our true and welbeloued, those that are of the coũcel of the state appointed by vs to the generall gouernment of these our inheritãces of the low Countries, how that betweene the Commissaries of the Prelates, nobles, Cities and lymits of *Brabant*, *Flanders*, *Artois*, *Henego*, *Valencine*, *Ryssel*, *Douay*, *Orches*, *Namen*, *Dornick*, *Dornicxsche*, *Vtrecht* and *Mechelen*, there representing the states of the said Countries. And also the Prince of *Orenge*, states and Cities of *Holland*, *Zeland*, and their associates on bothe sides circũspectly thervnto deputed. And there they haue made and erected a certain tractate of pacificatie and peace, hauing solicited to haue ỹ same made manifest with publique letters

ters vnder our title and seale, with incertions of the ful might and authoritie of the afore-sad cō-missioners, as also ȳ cause that all subiects of all the said countries beeing cōprehended in the said peace, and pacification shall bebound to obserue and keep the same in euery point. And further that the gouernors, presidents/ Councels and Lawyers of our said Countries/ doo charge and commaund the said pacificati-on to be published, of the whiche contract, the contents doo follow heerafter word for woord/ with authoritie afore-said.

Vnto

Vnto all those that shall bear, see, or read these presents greeting.

Whereas the lands of these lowe Contries with in this ix. or x. yeres last past, are fallen into many & diuerse great calamities & miseryes, by reason of the ciuil warres and discentions fallen vppon the same, and that through the proude, rigorous, and obstinate gouernment of the Spaniards and their adherents.

And therfore to foresee in time against the same, and also to cease the farther troubles, oppressions, and calamityes of the same lands, by meanes of a firme peace and pacificatiõ, there was in the mouth of February An. 1574. gathered and appointed at Breda Commissioners of his Maiestie: and certaine others appointed by the Prince of Orenge, and the states of Holland, Zeland, and their associates, by the which diuerse meanes and presentations were propounded, seruing greatly to the accomplishing of the aforesaide peace and pacificacion. Notwithstanding there folowed not suche frute as was hoped therof but the contrary. But whiles we thus hoped of the meanes of his Maiesties

ieſties goodnes and comfort towards vs. The aforeſaid Spanyards haue dayly more and more perſeuered in oppreſſing the poore people and ſubiects, and to bring theſe Coūtries into an euerlaſting thraldome and ſlauery, wherunto without any ſtaying of them ſelues haue made certain mutinies, threatning the nobles and Cities, and as open enemyes, inuading and entering into certain Cities and townes, ſpoyling, burning and ſacking the ſame, for the which they haue bene accuſed and declared to thoſe that are appointed to haue the gouernment of the ſaid countries to be manifeſt enemyes of his maieſtie and to the common welth.

The ſtates therefore from hence forth with the aforeſaid Commiſſaries, are forced to enter into armour, and that for to defend and preſerue from vtter ruin and deſtruction. And alſo that the inhabitants of all the lowe Countries might be vnited and knit togither, in one firme and eſtabliſhed agrement.

The ſtates therefore and gouernours haue agréed that they ſhould cauſe the aforeſaid Spanyards and their adherents, which are the ſpoylers of the Countries, fully and wholly to departe out of the ſaid

lands

lands, and then to bring againe the said Coũtryes into the vse of their olde lawes, preuiledges, customes & liberties, wherby their trafique and welfare might be restored to them again, then thus it is, that the aforesaid agræment of peace begun at Breda. The Lords that are appointed the gouernours of the said Countries. doo meane to follow the same in order to Gods glory, & the seruice of the Kings maiestie, betwéen the prelates, nobles, townes and vnites of Brabant, Flaunders, Artois, Henegouve, Valencine, Lylle, Douay, Orchyls, Namen, Dornick, Dornixsche, Vtrecht and Malme, representing the states of the said landes, and also the Prince of Orenge, states and Cyties of Holland, Zeland and their associates, by commission on bothe sides, circumspectly appointed to the same, that is to say.

The right honorable Sir Iohn of Linde, Abbot of S. Gartruydts at Louan, Sir Gyllayne Abbot of S. Peeters at Gaunt, Sir Matheus Abbot of Saint Gistain and elected Bishop of Atrecht, Sir Iohn de Moll Lord of Oetinghen, Sir Frauncis de Halevvine, Lord of Zvveneghem, gouernour and Captain of Andenard, and commissary of the lawes of Flaunders,

Sir

Sir Charles of Gaure, Lord of Frezimridders. Sir Elbertus Leonynus, Doctor of law and professor within the Vniuersitie of Louan. M. Peeter de Beuere, Counceller to the King in his coūcel of Flaunders. Sir Quintine du pretes, cheef Schepen at Barghen in Henegovve, and Iohn de Pennants, also Counceller and maister of his Maiesties accounts in Brabant, and there Secretary: these aforesaid are for the states of Brabant, Flaunders, Artoies, Henegovve. &c.

Also Sir Philips of Marnix, Lord of Aldegonde. Arnolde of Dorpe, Lord of Tēpsche. VVilliā of zuylen, of Niefilde, Lord of Xeraecher. Sir Adrian of Millie. D. of law & counceller to his excellency in the prouinciall councel of Holland. Maister Cornelius King, Lycenciate in the lawes and also counceller to his excellencie. M. Paull Buyes Aduocate of the Countries of Holland. Maister Peeter de ryke Baillif of Vlissing. Anthony of the zykil, Counceller of zeland. And Andrevv de Young, Borowmaister of Midlebourge. These were they that were deputed from the Prince of Orenge and the states of Holland and zeland with their associats, according to the tenor of their commission

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encerted in the end of this present tractate euen as it was made, erected and concluded betwéene bothe the aforesaid parties and Countries, for an euerlasting peace, league, vnitie and order. These conditions and articles héerafter following.

The first Article.

First, that all offences, iniuryes, misdemeaners and hinderaunces doon by reason of the troubles betwéen the Inhabitãts of the prouinces ẏ are cõprehended in this present Tractate, whersoeuer or of what maner they be, shalbe forgiuen, forgotten, and accounted as though they had neuer béen, so that at no time héerafter by reason thereof any mention to be made, or any man spoken to for the same.

2. In consideration wherof the aforesaid states of Brabant, Flaunders, Artois and Henegovve, as also my Lord the Prince, with the states of Holland and Zeland, and their associates, vnfainedly doo promise from this time foorth for them selues, to maintain among the Inhabitants of all the said Countryes, and cause to be maintained one firme and vnuiolate peace and frœndship, in suche manner that the one shall be bound to ayde and assist the other

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in all opportunities with word and déed, body and goods, and especially, to driue and kéep out of these our Countryes ỹ Spanish souldiers and other Aliants and straungers, which contrary to all right and equitie haue bolted to bereaue the Lords and all the nobilitie of their liues, and to imploy the treasure of the land to them selues, and from this time forth to bring the Comminaltie into an euerlasting thrall-dome and slauery: for the which we shall furnish all things that shall be néedfull to make resistance against all those that héer in shalbe found to do the contrary. Therfore the afore named confederates do promise to be found ready and prompt to all necessary and reasonable contributions and impostes.

3. Also it is agréed that immediatly after the departure of the Spaniards and their adherents, when as all things shall be in rest and safetie, then shall bothe parties procure with all expedition to conuocate and gather togither the generall states in such manner and forme as it was don the same time (when as the Emperour Chales of moste famous memorie did transport and deliuer ouer the heritage of

these Contries into the hands of our most gratious Lord ỹ Kings maiestie) there to appoint & ordain in causes of these cõtryes (aswell generall as particuler) concerning the fact of exercise of Religion, in Holland, zeland, Bõmeny, and the associated places, as also of restitutiõ of holdes artilery, ships, and such other belonging to the King, during the foresaid troubles which haue bẽn taken by them of Hollãd, and Zeland, or otherwise: to the seruise of his Maiestie, the cõmoditie and vnitie of the Countries, whereunto they shalbe found to appertain neither to the one partie nor to the other, no interuption, detract, or delay, shall or may be done: neither regarding the prœdings, spærhes, and resolutions or executions that there shalbe committed and giuen, howsoeuer they shall or may be, whereunto bothe the parties thẽ selues, wholly and with firme trueth haue submitted them selues.

4. That from hence forth the Inhabitants and Subiects aswell of the one side as of the other of what countrye or land ouer on this side, either of what state, qualitie or condition be be, may occupie in all places, go and come, inhabit and trafique after

after the order of Merchants, or otherwise in all freedome and safetie, yet it is to be vnderstanded, that it shall not be lawful or tollerated, that these of Holland, zeland, or any other of what Countrie, qualitie, or condition they be, shall attempt hetherwarde ouer on this side (beeing without the lymits of the said Countries of Holland and zeland, and their associated places) any thing against the quiet rest and peace, and especially against the Catholike Romish Religion, and the exercise of the same, neither to iniury any man by the same, or to itterate and slaunder any by word or deed or any like facte vpon paine to be punished as disturbers of the common peace, to the example of all others.

5 And lest that in the meane time any man should stād in any doute of perill what soeuer it is to be vnderstanded, that all Placards made heeretofore and published on the parte of heresie, as also the criminall orders made by the Duke of Alua, with the pursute and execution of ꝯ same, should be suspended til that by the generall states otherwise shalbe ordained and prouided, so that no kinde of damage in any maner be don, as is aboue written.

That

6 That my Lord the Prince shall continue generall Admirall of the Sea, and his Maiesties Lieutenant ouer Holland, Zeland, Bommenie, and other associated places, for to commaund in all things as he now presently doth, with the same Iustices, Officers and Magistrates, without any alteration or innouation (without it be his will and consent) and that ouer these cities and places which are now in his excellencies keeping, til that the generall states after the departure of the Spanyards, shall ordain otherwise.

7 But so much as doth belong vnto the townes and places contained vnder that commission of the Kings maiestie by him receiued, which at this present do not stād at the commaundement and obedience of his excellencie, in this point shall so continue vntil suche time as the said Townes and places shall submit them selues with the other states into this vnitie and agreement. And his excellencie to satisfie them in such points wherin they finde them selues agreeued vnder his gouernment, whether it be in case of Religion or otherwise that the prouinces may not be dismembered, as also to auoide all strife and contention

tention.

8 And in the meane time no Placards, Mandates, prouices or erploites, shall take any place in the aforesaid contries or townes ruled by the aforenamed Prince then those that are approued and defined by his excellencie, or by the Councel, magistrates or Officers there, without pretudice of the time to come, and the assembly of the great councel of his maiestie.

9 Also it is conditioned that all prisoners by reason of ỳ aforesaid troubles, as namely Countie Bossut shall be deliuered frée without any ransome, except it were paid or agréed on before the date hérof notwithstanding he to pay the charges of the prison.

10. Farther it is agréd that the afore said Lord and Prince, and all other Lords Knights, and gentlemen, particular persons, and subiects, of what state, qualytie, or condition so euer they be, as also theire widdowes, dowagers, Children, and inheritours, aswell of the one side as on the other, are and shalbe instituted into their goods, name, and fame, and that they may

also

also attache and take in possession al their Lordships, goods, prerogatiues actions, and credites, whiche are not solde or alienated in such sort as the aforesaid goods are now present, and to the same effect all faults, contumacies, arrests, sentences, sesments, and executions, which haue bene giuen & done since the beginning of these troubles in Anno, 1566, aswel in causes of Religion, as in entering into Armes and weapons with all that hath followed, shalbe voide, reuoked, dead & buried, and therfore the same withall other writings, processes, acts, and actions made and don of them shalbe destroyed and raced out of the regesters, so that it shall not be needful to take any other Certificate or proufe then this present tractate. Notwithstanding any incorporations, lawes, customes, prescriptions, aswel legall conuenticles, as locall customes, or any other exceptions to the cõtrary ỹ which concerne in these and all other causes of the aforesaid troubles shall cease, and take no place in any of them so far as is needful, beeing specially derogated (propounding with the lawe whiche is no generall derogation) without present specificate.

11 It is to be vnderstanded, that among those that shall inioy this present benefit shalbe comprehended my moste gratious Lady the wife of the renowmed Kurforst of the Rine, somtimes the widowe of the Lord of Bredrod, concerning Vianen and other her goods (beeing adiudged to her grace or to any other, hauing Action from her.

12 In like maner herin shalbe contayned the countie of Buren, somuch as pertaineth to the Citte, Castle, and countrie of Buren, after the departure of the Garisõs, the said Lord and countie may vse the same as his owne proprietie s.

13 Also there shalbe throwen downe and defaced all monuments, Pillers, inscripcions, and such others, erected by the Duke of Alua, to the shame and reproche of the abowe named, as of all others,

14. Concerning the frutes of the aforesaid Lordships and goods, the increase and that which remaineth of such deeds of Armes, tributes and rents, belonging to the King or Countries, Cities, and all other whiche haue beene expired & due before the date

of this present, and as yet not paid nor receiued of his maistie, or those that haue his action those may euery one inioy and receiue that which is his.

15 It is farther tobe vnderstanded that all such as is fallen, alwel of the aforesaid goods, heritages, rents, & suche other since Midsommer last 1576. shall continue to the profit of them that haue right therein, notwithstanding that the receiuers therof by confiscation or otherwise haue receiued or encroched any thing therof. In such cases restitution shalbe made.

16. But if it be so that any of the aforesaid, rents, or other incomes in the Kings behalf, by title of confiscation haue bene taken, attached or giuen, then shall euery one in like maner that left, & went from their goods be discharged from all charges, incombents, what soeuer: as they also shall be free, quit, and discharged from all rents reserued vpon the lands and goods, which by reason of the aforesaid troubles haue stand void, and could not be vsed according to the rate of the time that it so lay void and vnoccuppyed, by reason aforesaid.

17 Touching the Catell, and other mo-

uables

nables, whiche on bothe sides are consumed and come to nothing, solde, or otherwise be alienated, of suche there shalbe no recouery.

18 But as concerning the inheritaunces, houses and rentes, that are solde or alyenated by the title of confiscation, the generall states in euery Prouince, shall out of the said states, depute and appoint Commissaris to receiue instructions and knowledge of all greuances if their chaunce to be any, so that by them there may be resonable satisfaction, made aswel to the olde proprietary as vnto the byer or seller of the aforesaid gouds and rentes, for there regresse or egresse circumspectly.

19 In like manner shalbe don touching the interesse of the personall rents and obligations, and all other pretences, complaints or clamors, beeing interrited by reason of the troubles, and afterward shal be set forth and intend after what maner so euer it be.

20 That all Prelates and other spirituall persons, whose Abbeys, Priuings, foundation and residents, lying without Hol-

of this present, and as yet not paid nor receiued of his maiestie, or those that haue his action these may euery one inioy and receiue that which is his.

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18 But as concerning the inheritaunces, houses and rents, that are solde or alyenated by the title of confiscation, the generall states in euery Prouince, shall out of the said states, depute and appoint Commissaries to receiue instructions and knowledge of all greuances if their chaunce to be any, so that by them there may be reasonable satisfaction, made aswel to the olde proprietater as vnto the byer or seller of the aboue said goods and rents, for there regresse or egresse circumspectly.

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20 That all Prelates and other spirituall persons, whose Abbeys, Lyuings, foundation and residents, lying without Hol-

land and Zeland, and yet neuertheleſſe in the ſame Contrie hath any goods or reuenewes ſhall come againe into the vſe and poſſeſſion of thoſe their goods, as before at the view of the Temporalitie.

21 But what ſoeuer doth appertaine vnto the Religious and other of the ſpiritualtie, beeing profeſſed or prebended, within the aforeſaid two Prouinces, and haue forſaken and continued out of the ſame, by reaſon that ỳ moſte parte of their goods are alienated from thẽ. Vnto thoſe from hence forth ſhalbe diſburſed reaſonable ſtypends with thoſe that remained, or otherwiſe to ſuffer them to haue the vſe of their goods, neuertheleſſe at the election of the ſtates vntil an other time by prouiſe as ſhall be ordained by ỳ generall ſtates.

22 Furthermore it is agréd that all Legacies, executorſhips, & other diſpoſitions Inter vinos vel mort. made and don by particular & priuate perſons through the which the true inheritors by the reaſon of the aforeſaid troubles, or of the Religion beeing put beſides their right ſucceſſion, or ſhalbe diminiſhed or diſherited by vertue of theſe ſhall be taken as void, canſel-

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led, and of no valure.

23 And for asmuche as they of Holland and zeland, for the better accomplishing of the warres, haue rated all kinde of coin either Siluer or Golde, at an high price, the whiche in other Prouinces without great losse wil not be giuen out, it is specified that the deputed of the general states incontinent so soon as is possible, shall aduise to take a generall rule that in the end the rates of the aforesaid coynes, may as nær as can be don, rated and appointed to the mainteinance of this vnitie, and of the common trafique on bothe sides.

24 Furthermore vppon the declaration made by them that are deputed for Holland and zeland, did in the end generally require, that all the lowe Coũtries should take vppon them and beare all such charges and dets as my Lord the Prince hath taken vp and contributed for the two forceable expeditions at his bether comming vnto the whiche aswell they of Holland and zeland, and other the Prouinces and Cities, whiche at his last [illegible] yelded and gaue ouer them selues, haue bounde them selues as they said, whiche article is

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left to be ordered at the discretion and determination of the generall states, the which when all causes appeased, and demonstration, and reporte made thereof, then suche regarde to be taken therein as thervnto appertaineth.

25 In this common agréement shall not be comprehended for to inioy the benefits of this present pacificatie, those Contries, Lordships and Townes holding the contrary parties vntill they haue effectually ioyned them selues with these confederates which they may doo when it pleaseth them.

VNTO the which Tractate and conclusion of peace, after the rehersall, agréeing and auouchments doone aswell of the Lords appointed to the gouernment of the said Cuntries and states of the same, and also vniformely of my lord the prince, the states of Holland and zeland with their associates, in all the aforsaid articles and peinte wt the rest of all that by the aforesaid states is writtē or otherwise shall be defyned and ordained, the aforesaid deputed by vertue of their commission, haue promised and sworne by these presents

sents to obserue, maintain, and perfo:me all the promises inuiolably aſwel on the one side, as one the other and also cause the same circumspectlye to be ratified by othe, subscribed & sealed by the Prelates, Nobles, Cities and other members of the said Countries, and also specially by the afo:esaid Lo:d and Prince, aſwel in generall as particuler, within one Moneth insuing to the satisfying of all men. In witnes of all that is abeue said and written, the afo:said deputed haue subscribed these presents in the Councel house of the Cytie of Gaunt the viij. of Nouember. 1576.

Subscribed thus.

Iohn of Linden, Abbot of S. Gert, Gheleine Abbot of Saint Peeters. Mathevv Abbot of S. Geſlaine. &c. Iohn de Moll. Frauncis de Halevvine. Charles de Gaure. Elbertus Leoninus. Q. du Pret p. Beuere. Phi. of Marmixe. Arnold of Dorp. VV. of Zuylen, of Nyeuelt. A.V. Myle. Peeter de Rycke. Iohn king p. Buys. Andrevv de Young of Zukelels.

Heer

The Agreement

Heere after followeth the Commission of the generall states.

THE Prelates, Nobles and Townes, representing the states of the Countrie, ouer on this side, presently gathered togither in the Cities of Bruxels, vnto all them that shall see these presents greeting.

For almuch as of long times past, the Lord and Prince of Orenge, with these of Holland and zeland, beeing determined and resolued, to communicate and treate with the Commissaryes of our L. the Kings maiestie, following the order begun in the Moneth of February 1574. after the olde title of Brabant, the aforesaid Commissaries of his Maiestie, beeing gathered togither at Breda, with the deputed of the aforesaid Prince, and those of Holland and zeland with their associates, there hauing kept diuerse and sundry meetings and tractations, vppon the fact of the pacification, for the appeasing of these miserable troubles, and ciuill warres

warres, propounding on bothe sides diuerse meanes and waies to come vnto the said pacification, notwithstanding the same at that time came to none effect, to the great greefe of the foresaide states, and seeing the continuance of these long miseryes, calamities and afflyctions of the said Contryes, & that it is needful to shun the vtter ruine and desolation of the same and speedily to seek remedie therin.

It is thought needful yet once againe, to enter into communication, and to proceed to the intreatie of the said pacifications. It is to be vnderstanded that we seeing the extremities of the said Countries to tend to the desolations therof, & we desiring specially to reduce the same into the olde tranquilitie, the rest and prosperitie of the inhabitants, in the behalf wherof we recommend the best and opportunates meanes and causes that can or may be found to be don therin, to cause them to be quiet and surcease from all tumults, dessions or ciuil warres, to the glory of God and his Maiesties honor, and for the common welfare of the said Countries we haue deputed, and by these presents do depute these to be Commissaries to continue and effectually deale in causes of the

aforsaid communication and pacificatiõ.

The reuerend father in God, Sir Iohn of Linden, Abbot of S. Garternydts at Louane. Sir Gillain Tymmerman, Abbot of Saint Peeters at Gaunt, or in his place Sir Bucho Ayta, Archedeacon of Ypere. Sir Mathevv Abbot of Saint Geslaine, and elected Bishop of Atretcht. Sir Iohn de Moll, Lord of Oetynghen. Sir Fraunces de Halewine Lord of zweueghem. S. Charles of Gaure Lord of Frezynridders. Sir Elbertus Leoninus, Doctor and professor of law in the Vniuersitie of Louane. Maister Peeter of Beuere, or Maister Ioyse Huysman Councellor in Flaunders, and sir Quinten du Pret chef & the pen of Berghen in Henegowe, with such Secretaryes as they themselues shall nominate, the whiche ioyntly togither or sir of them at the least, we haue giuen and by these presents, do giue ful and perfect charge and authoritie, bothe generall and speciall, so that they shewe themselues redy, and to appeare with those that are or shall be deputed of the aforesaid Prince of Orenge, and those of Hollande and Zeland with their adherents and associates in the Citie of Gaunt the xy. of this moneth of October, there to proceed farther

vnto

vnto the afore saide communication and pacificacion following, the points & meanes already propounded, or other that shall tend to the same purpose, bothe generally and specially in that which is before saide depending thereon, to say and do all that they shall finde therunto belonging, and that they specially may agree and consent in all controuersies that shall or may be aleadged, so that they may come to the resolution of the said pacification and common quietnes, graunting if nede be, to giue them specialler and ampler commission, for to bring the same to his laudable end and effect, promising ouer and besides this, in firme and sure trueth vnder our Obligations for our selues and euery of vs and our successors in particuler and generall, with all our goods that are present or to come, at all times, and in all points and euery Article the whiche the aforesaide Commissaryes or vi. of them in our name shall agree and consent vnto, to holde firmely, and all the same to ratifie and obserue inuiolately, and to cause to be obserued, maintained and kept, any thing that might come hereafter to the contrary.

In witnesse of this and at the requests

of all ỹ other ſtates, we haue cauſed ỹ ſeale of the ſtates of Brabant to be annexed hēr vnto, don in the aforeſaid Citie of Bruxeles the 7. of October 1576. ſubſcribed with expreſſe charge of my Lords, the deputed from the ſtates of the lowe Countryes, whiche were gathered togither at Bruxels, & ſigned Cornelius VVellemans, and the ſaid Letters were ſealed wᵗ the ſeales of the aforeſaid ſtates of Brabant in red Wax with a double tail hanging.

The Commission of the Deputes from the Prince of Orrenge and the states of Holland & Zeland

WE WILLIAM by the grace of God Prince of Orenge, Coũtie of Nassavv, of Catsenellenbogen, of Vianden, of Diets, of Buren, of Lerdam, Lord and Barron of Breda, of Dieſt, of Grimberghen, of Aerlay, of Nozeroy, &c. Borovvgraue of Antvverp & of Beſancõ. Lieutenant and generall Captain ouer Holland, Zeland, VVeſtfriſeland & Vtretht, vvith all the Seniorships, nobles and tovvnes of Holland and Zeland, repreſenting the ſtates of the ſame countries, letting all men vnderſtand by theſe preſents.

Seeing it hath pleaſed almightie God of his ſpeciall grace to preſent vnto vs the occations and meanes by the which theſe lowe Countreies, and the inhabitours of the Cities and townes of the ſame might be reſtored and vnited vnto their former

societie and welfare, whiche through the exempted Spanish nation and their tyrannicall government over the said Countries from certaine yéres passed vntil this present hath béen brought into a miserable disturbaunce, with ciuill warres and yet so continueth.

Now that the lands and common subiects of the said Countryes, may once again be reedyfied and strengthned in their rightful frædoms and occuppyngs, to the glory of God and the loyall seruice of his Maiestie, as also the Countryes and subiects welfare: it is nœt full that euerye true subiect and louer of their native contreie, to shewe him selfe prompt and redy hèrin, for as muche as it is manifest and knowen vnto all men, that the pretence and wicked councel of the said Spanyards after our long suffering, and their intollerable wilfulnes vtterly tendeth to bring all the lowe Countreyes and Prouinces with all the Inhabitants of ỳ same (bèing therin nurished and bred) into an vtter ruine, destruction, and euerlasting slauerie, except some spædy remedie be found therin, and that specially there be prouided by common power and vniforme agrœment of these lowe Countryes, that

after

after the departing and driuing away of ỹ Spanyards, some frendly exhortatiõ & conferẽce by his excellencie, and the aforesaid states of Holland and zeland to be vsed and had with the other Prouinces of the same.

Considering this now god to be done: the Prelates, Nobles, and townes, representing the states of Brabant, Flaunders, and other Prouinces, do seme also to be moued therunto, and therfore to farther the cause, commoditie, quietnes and vnitie of ỹ said lowe Coũtries, his excellencie with the aforesaid states on the other side haue agreed one with the other to enter into communications, being contented that his excellencie and the states of Holland and zeland asmuche as shall pertaine to Bommel and other their associates also to be confirmed and strengthened, that they may the better send suche as shall be appointed at the certein day to be within the Citie of Gaunt.

Thus it is that his excellencie, as also the aforsaid states of Holland and zeland for the cause aforesaid haue appointed and by these presents do appoint those worthy, famous and speciall gentlemen, Phillip of Marnex, Lord of Saint Aldagon, Arnolde

nolde of Dorp. VVilliam of zuilen, of Nyeuelt. Adrian of Mylen. Cornelius King. Paule Buis. Peeter de Ryke, Antho nye of zikelen, and Androvy Yung, that these and euery of them or the moste part of them personally them selues, in ỹ name of his excellencie and states aforesaid do appære in the aforesaid Citie of Gaunt, and there, with the aforsaid states and o-ther Prouinces of the said lowe Coũtries, or their lawful Deputies to enter in talke and communication, as also to dele, aduise and conclude on such artycles as they shal sæm to be best for the peace, vnitie and so-cietie of the said Countries and the inha-tants of the same, hauing regarde to the a foresaid declarations and honest offers of his excellencie and the said states of Hol-land and zeland, with their associates and more largely declared hærtofore in ỹ trea-tie of peace with the Commissaryes from the King begun at Breda, and so to pro-cæd farther on those points that there was handeled concerning the pacificaciõ in all that may be done either demaunded if næde be. Notwithstanding giuing the said deputed or the moste parte ful power and authoritie with charge specially and generally to do and accorde with the con-

sents

sents of the said states and other prouinces in these and such kinde of causes, as may be to the maintenaunce, safetie and prophet of these lands and Countries, and especially to the withstanding, subduing, and driuing out of the wicked Spanyards, as common enemyes to our native Countrye and the common peace, as it shall there be found to be most necessary, and to the same ende also they with the other Prouinces vppon such resonable conditions and articles as any waies may stand with honestie and godlinesse, and to the commoditie and tranquilitie of the Countrie, shall obliged binde them selues, promising his excellencie, and the states of Holland and zeland, with honestie and trueth to maintain the same in ful strength and vertue, and as such as pertaineth to him self he promiseth to maintain, and cause to be maintained inuiolatly, all that is or shalbe by the said deputed (as is aboue rehearced) concluded or agreed on, not suffering any thing to be don or left vndon contrary to the same, in any wise directly or indirectly, bending him selfe with all the aforesaid persons, and their goods, as also the whole inhabitants

of Holland and zeland with their associ ates, presently and to come, none excep ted.

In witnesse whereof his excellencie by the order aforesaid of the states of Holand and Zeland haue subscrybed and with theire seales confirme the same. Done at Midleborovve the xij. of October, and at Delft the xiij. day of September, Anno, 1576. Subscrybed VVillim of Nassavv at the speciall charge of the states of Holland and zeland. Subscrybed p. Buys, and by the expresse charge of the states of zeland. Subscrybed p. Taymon, and sealed with red Wax, and three seales hanging out with a double Tayle of Parchment.

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THE COMMISSION OF THE Secretary.

AS in the seruice of my Lordes the Commissaries beeing elected by my Lords the states of these Countries ouer on this side, and beeing gathered to gither at Bruxels again, to treate of the manner of the pacification with those that were deputed of my Lord the Prince of Orenge, and the states of Holland and zeland, with their associats it was needful that a Secretary should be ioyned vnto them, for to recorde, note, and act in their names, all such acts, constitutions and agreementes as shall bee by them concluded. It was permitted of the said Lordes, that the chusing of him should bee of the aforesaide Commissaryes themselues.

My Lordes of the states folowing their election, & hauing denounced the person of Iohn de penants counceller vnto our Lord and maister the Kings maiestie, in his councel chamber at Brabant, and taking him for the same, haue authorised, and by these presents do authorise the said Penants, to record, note, and act, in the name

knowledg, and by ordinances of the afore said commissaries, all such acts, recordes, notes, letters, writings and copies, and whatsoeuer agréements by them made and don, vnto the which men shall giue credit, and receiue all such recordes and writings admitting them for trueth to stand in ful strengthand vertue. Notwithstanding that the said Secretary, before the said Commissaries, shall take his lawful othe, to the satisfying and appeasing of them, don at Bruxel vnder Seale of the states of Brabant, in the name and approbation of all the other vnder the signet of their scutchion the xiij. of October 1576. subscribed with expresse charge of the aforesaid states, and noted Cornelis VVelemans, and sealed with the prouie Seale, of the aforesaid states in forme of plackard.

Collected and found to agrée with the originall tractate and pacification, subscribed.

Iohn de Penants

By

By the King.

Giuing you to vnderstād that we at the desire and request of our forsaid states, & following the agreement and confirmation of our said counsail and states, in manner & forme as it was doon vpon the v. day of this present moneth. We certify and charge all our true and Welbeloued, the cheef presidents and people of our great councel, Chaunceler and people of our councel in *Brabant*, Gouernor and presidēts for our councel in *Flaunders* and *Artoyes*, great Baylif of *Henegouw* and people of our councel at *Bargen*, Prouost of *Valencine*, Gouernour, of *Rishel Douay & Orches* Gouernor, President and people of our councel at *Namen*, our Gouernour, Balif, and councel at

Dornick

Dornyck, Præsident ende Lieutenant and people of our councel at *Vtrecht* ende *Schontet* of *Meighelen*, that they cause the aforsaid tractate of pacificatiõ or peace with the incersion as before, to be proclamed, cryed out and published euery where within the limits of their iurisdiction, in such places where as vsually they haue beene wunte to publishe and make proclamations, and the same to obserue and keep/ and cause to be obserued and kept according to the contents of the same. In witnes wherof/ wee haue caused our seales tobe hanged heerunder. Giuen in oure Citie of *Bruxell.* 1576. and our reign ouer *Spain* and of *Cicil* xx. and of *Naples* xxiij.

By the King in his councel.

D. Ouerlope.

of the lowe Countries.

HIS Maieſtie hath permitted Michael of Hamōt his ſvvorne Printer to print this preſent tractate of pacificaciō betvvene the ſtates and Countries ouer on this ſide & the Prince of ORENGE, ſtates and Cities of HOLLAND and ZELAND and their aſſociates, and ſuffer him to diſtribute and ſel the ſame for the ſpace of tvvo yeeres next enſuing, forbidding all other to print the ſame, on pain to forfait for his default 50. Carolus Gildens, as by his letters Pattents doth appeer, and by an act confirmed, made for the ſame the xiij. day of Nouember.

1576.

Subſcribed

D. Ouerlope.